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**Washington, D.C.** — Today, the President's non-deportation policy, established through executive order, goes into effect. As many as 1.7 million illegal immigrants could become eligible for temporary legal status, as a result, including an estimated 460,000 illegal immigrants in California alone.

"The idea that illegal immigrants will be rewarded with a form of legal status, even if it's on a temporary basis, is an insult to the rule of law and anyone who has ever entered the U.S. through the front door or those who are legally waiting for their opportunity," said Congressman Hunter. "This policy sends the message that laws are simply a tool of convenience and they are subject to arbitrary enforcement.

"With this policy, there are also serious concerns with fraud and abuse given vulnerabilities in the application process. And with such a high number of applications expected and no real fraud-prevention mechanism, this policy creates unnecessary risk and exposure. There's also the concern that, in some states, the newly acquired legal status is sufficient to obtain other forms of identification and benefits.

"This policy needs to be reversed. The President and Democratic-led Senate won't take action, but the House has an obligation to American families and taxpayers to take every step possible to uphold the law."